Implementation of N.F.S.M.

†566.SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to implement National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in all the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has developed any mechanism to review the out come of this mission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any criteria has been adopted for the selection of districts under this scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is already implemented in 312 identified districts of 17 States with three components namely, National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice) in 136 identified districts of 14 States; National Food Security Mission-Wheat (NFSM-Wheat) in 141 identified districts of 9 States and National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses) in 171 identified districts of 14 States. There is no proposal to implement the programme in other States.

(c) and (d) A strong monitoring mechanism of the programme at the national, state and district levels have been formulated in a regular manner for every crop season to review the outcome of the Mission. The progress of the Mission is also reviewed at the Regional Level in various Regional meetings organised for the purpose. Besides, provision for concurrent evaluation is also there under the programme.

(e) and (f) The districts included under NFSM have been selected based on certain criteria such as for NFSM-Rice, those districts were identified which have more than 50,000 ha area under rice and productivity less than the State's average productivity; for wheat, the districts in which irrigation coverage under wheat is more than 50% and productivity is less than State's average were identified. The districts for implementation of NFSM-Pulses have been selected based on existing large area under pulses, potential for area expansion through inter-cropping and utilization of rice follows.

American pressure on Indian Agriculture policy

†567.SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that America or its various organizations are putting undue pressure on India's Agriculture Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of various agreements signed and the commissions constituted between America and India to encourage Agricultural research and trade between the two countries and the benefits India got so far as a result of this?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.